

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
Planning and Development Services Department
MEMORANDUM

TO: PDS Associates
FROM: Roderick Sanchez, AICP, CBO - Building Official
DATE: February 8, 2010
FILE: Code Interpretation Manual

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2010-004

TITLE: Gravity Water Closet Minimum Flow Rates


CODE EDITION: 2009 *International Plumbing Code* (IPC) as amended by COSA

SECTION: Table 604.4

PURPOSE: To clarify what the maximum flow rates for water closets are required to be in residential and commercial buildings.

QUESTION: In the amendments to the 2009 *International Plumbing Code*, Table 604.4 states that water closets are to have a maximum of 1.6 gallons per flushing cycle, and footnote "c" states that gravity flush water closets shall have a maximum average water consumption of 1.28 gallons per flushing cycle. How is that average obtained, and how does a fixture meet that average?

ANSWER: The maximum water consumption in the City of San Antonio amendments to the IPC comes from the Sustainable Building Ordinance 2009-03-12-0179. Average water consumption refers to gravity **dual** flush water closets which shall have a maximum average water consumption of 1.28 gallons per flushing (GPF) cycle. Gravity single flush water closets shall have a maximum water consumption of 1.28 gallons per flush. All gravity flush water closets installed in San Antonio are required to be on the list of High Efficiency Toilets (WaterSense) published by the Environmental Protection Agency. All gravity dual and single flush water closets on the WaterSense list meet the requirement for average water consumption of 1.28 GPF.



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